

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 were presented for examination. In an Office action dated February 22, 2008, claims 15-19 were allowed, claims 1-14 were rejected. Claims 1, 2, 5, and 9-11 are amended herein to more distinctly claim Applicants' invention.

Applicants thank the Examiner for examination of the claims pending in this application and address the Examiner's comments below. Based on the above Amendment and following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections and withdraw them.

Response to Rejections Under 35 USC 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-14 under 35 USC § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Tiliks et al (Pub. No.: US 2003/0091172 in view of Tognazzini (US Pat. #: 6,195,420). This rejection is traversed.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite:

A method for associating information with a call, the method comprising:
receiving, *by an incoming call module*, a request to make a call, the call having been initiated by a user on a first device;
prompting, by sending a signal to the first device, *by a first prompting module*, the user to enter information to associate with the call;
receiving, *by an information receiving module*, from a second device, a signal comprising such information;
associating, *by an association module*, the information with the call;
and
communicating, by a control module, with the incoming call module, the prompting module, the information receiving module, and the association module.

Similarly, independent claim 2 has been amended to recite:

A method for associating an account code with a call, the method comprising:

receiving, *by an incoming call module*, a request to make a call, the call having been initiated by a user on a first device;
prompting, *by sending a signal to the first device*, by a first prompting module, the user to enter an account code to associate with the call;
receiving, *by an account code receiving module*, from a second device, a signal comprising an account code; and
associating, *by an association module*, the account code with the call;
and
communicating, by a control module, with the incoming call module, the prompting module, the account code receiving module, and the association module.

As amended, claims 1 and 2 recite similar limitations as allowed claims 15-19. The features of the claimed invention recite a method performed by various modules that allow a user to enter an account code using a device other than the device that was used to initial the call. Furthermore, the claimed invention allows for a control module to communicate with the various modules to enable to aforementioned functionality.

Tiliks does not disclose the features of present application as claimed. Tiliks also does not disclose “communicating, by a control module, with the incoming call module, the prompting module, the account code receiving module, and the association module.” Tiliks merely describes a system for generating call records based on account codes. In Tiliks, a user makes a call from a device and enters account information on the same device. Tiliks in no way discloses various modules for entering an account code using a device other than the device that was used to initial the call, as claimed in the present application. Furthermore does not disclose a control module that communicates with the various modules. Therefore, Tiliks does not disclose or teach any of the limitation as claimed, and furthermore does not each or describe “communicating, by a control module, with the incoming call module, the prompting module, the account code receiving module, and the association module.”

Tognazzini does not remedy the deficiencies of Tiliks. Tognazzini merely discloses a system that allows for access to a customer's bill from various locations. *See* Tognazzini, abstract. Tognazzini describes a process for reviewing a customer invoice by allowing a customer to log onto a server and retrieve information about his or her bill. *See* Tognazzini, col. 6, lines 1-67. As such, Tognazzini does not remedy the deficiencies of Tiliks and does not teach or describe any of the limitation as claimed, and furthermore does not each or describe “communicating, by a control module, with the incoming call module, the prompting module, the account code receiving module, and the association module.”

Applicants respectfully submit that for at least these reasons claims 1-14 are patentably distinguishable over the cited references, both alone and in combination. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that Examiner reconsider the rejection, and withdraw it.

Conclusion

In sum, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims now pending are patentable over the cited references for at least the reasons given above, while not necessarily conceding any contention not specifically addressed. Applicants request reconsideration of the basis for the rejections of these claims and request allowance of them.

If the Examiner believes that for any reason direct contact with Applicants' attorney would help advance the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully Submitted,
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